

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application:	) Customer No. 21378
Charles C. Hart	)
Serial No.: To be Assigned	) National Phase of International Application:
	) PCT/US04/01584
Filed: Herewith	) International Filing Date:
	) January 20, 2004
For INTERNAL TISSUE RETRACTOR	) Priority Date:
	) January 24, 2003
	)

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find a copy of PTO Form SB/08a which lists information which may be relevant to the prosecution of the above-captioned application. It is requested that this information be considered by the Office.

This Statement is being submitted under the terms of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). The information is being filed before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, it is believed no fee is due.

Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h), it is understood that filing of the Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute an admission that the information submitted is material to patentability.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any over-payment, to our Deposit Account No. 01-2215.

Respectfully submitted,



Kenneth K. Vu  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 46,323

Date: June 14 2005

**Customer No. 21378**  
Telephone (949) 713-8000  
Facsimile (949) 713-8206

10/539641

JC09 Rec CT/PTO 16 JUN 2003

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1

of 2

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	Not yet assigned
Filing Date	Herewith
First Named Inventor	Charles C. Hart
Art Unit	Not yet assigned
Examiner Name	Not yet assigned
Attorney Docket Number	2836-USP-PCT-US

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US- 2002/0045800	04-18-2002	Lau et al.	
		US- 2002/0133055	09-19-2002	Haindl	
		US- 1,275,520	08-13-1918	Bell	
		US- 3,882,855	05-13-1975	Schulte et al.	
		US- 1,947,649	12-05-1931	Kadavy	
		US- 4,190,042	02-26-1980	Sinnreich	
		US- 4,889,107	12-26-1989	Kaufman	
		US- 5,080,088	01-14-1992	LeVahn	
		US- 5,143,082	09-01-1992	Kindberg et al.	
		US- 5,370,650	12-06-1994	Tovey et al.	
		US- 5,439,476	08-08-1995	Frantzides	
		US- 5,651,762	07-29-1997	Bridges	
		US- 5,656,012	08-12-1997	Sienkiewicz	
		US- 5,803,902	09-08-1998	Sienkiewicz et al.	
		US- 5,865,728	02-02-1999	Moll et al.	
		US- 5,947,895	09-07-1999	Warner	
		US- 6,155,972	12-05-2000	Nauertz et al.	
		US- 6,264,604	07-24-2001	Kieturakis et al.	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		WO 91/14392	10-03-1991			

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

